Learning in Blended Hybrid-HyFlex Courses - Spring 2021

What Students Should Expect

Tarleton State University

Spring 2021 Update
Learning in Blended Hybrid-HyFlex Courses - Spring Semester, 2021

Spring Semester Dates

The spring semester 2021 will begin on Tuesday, January 19, following observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Spring Break will be observed on March 10-12, with an additional break planned for April 2-5. The last class day is May 4, with a reading day (dead day) scheduled for May 5. Finals will be held May 6 – May 12, and commencement is scheduled for May 14-16, 2021.

How Students Will Attend Class

For the spring semester 2021, courses at Tarleton State will be taught in two delivery modes: blended Hybrid-HyFlex and fully online. Students registering for an online class will have the class delivered in the traditional online modality.

Students in blended Hybrid-HyFlex courses will experience opportunities for face-to-face instruction with their professors in the classroom or face-to-face remote learning sessions. See the graphic below for a visual representation of the updated blended Hybrid-Hyflex model.

In the Spring 2021 term, students have the choice of attending class in two delivery modes: (a) face-to-face or (b) remote synchronous (Instructors may need to rotate face-to-face instruction to accommodate safe distancing practices.) Students must attend class in one of these two modalities. Repeated absences may impact the student’s ability to be successful in the class and may lead to failure to earn credit for the course.

Remote asynchronous instruction (attending remotely at a later time) will be available only by permission of the instructor for a limited period of time and requires extenuating circumstances be present. Extenuating circumstances considered for remote asynchronous learning include illness/quarantine/isolation by the student that prohibits face-to-face or remote synchronous participation (Zoom) and documented in the COVID 19 Report Form, other COVID related illness or hardship, or a university sanctioned event that requires the student to be absent from class (http://catalog.tarleton.edu/academicaffairs). Contact your instructor for further guidance.

All courses will appear in the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) to maximize access to course materials and other important course related activities. These modes will be supplemented with online learning as appropriate.

Blended Hybrid-HyFlex courses are flexible by nature, but may change if circumstances require.
Before the First Day of Class

All courses will be available in the Canvas Learning Management System. Students will receive communication from instructors before the first day of class regarding the meeting schedule for the initial day of instruction. Students can also access this information by logging into their Canvas class (http://tarleton.instructure.com). Students will have the opportunity to attend face-to-face instruction or remotely in a synchronous (at the same time) manner via Zoom. Remote asynchronous instruction will be reserved for special circumstances and will require advanced instructor approval.
If students choose to attend face-to-face, Tarleton requires the wearing of face coverings in all public spaces. Classrooms are configured to maintain safe physical distancing. In some instances due to classroom capacity, students may be asked to rotate attendance in the face-to-face meetings. Should this be the case, instructors will inform students of the initial schedule prior to the first class day. This schedule may be adjusted as the semester progresses.

First Day of Class
Students should plan to attend their classes face-to-face unless directed otherwise by their instructors. Please access your course in the Canvas LMS for further information.

Enhanced Classroom Safety Measures
The university has instituted safety measures to enhance the safety of students, faculty, and staff.

All classrooms will be cleaned twice per day, once at mid-day and once at the end of the day. Deep cleaning will occur three times per week.

Seats within each classroom will be clearly identified to maintain a safe physical distance between students. The capacity of each classroom has been determined, and face-to-face attendance maximums are set at occupancy levels that allow safe physical distancing.

Tarleton State requires face coverings in all public spaces, including classrooms. This extends to students, faculty, and staff. Any student who attends a class face-to-face without wearing a face covering will be asked to attend remotely instead. If the student refuses, they will be referred to the Student Affairs office.

Anyone—students or instructors—exhibiting any symptoms of infection or generally feeling unwell should not come to campus; they should attend class remotely.

Recommended Technology to Complete Courses
Students should refer to the Bring Your Own Device link https://www.tarleton.edu/technology/laptoprecommendations.html to learn more about the technology recommended to complete the courses in each program. Students are not required to purchase computer equipment prior to attending Tarleton. These are recommendations based on general technology needs of the academic major.

Computer Labs
The schedule of computer labs available for student use can be found at https://www.tarleton.edu/cls/computer-labs.html. The open access labs will have an enhanced cleaning schedule to maintain a safe environment for students, faculty, and staff.
Completing Assignments and Assessments
Most all assignments and assessments (i.e., projects, tests, quizzes) will allow for remote completion so that students will not have to attend face-to-face to complete them. Students are encouraged to check their courses in Canvas often to stay up-to-date with assignments and assessments.

Proctored Exams
Some courses may require that students complete exams using a proctoring service. Instructors will inform students if this is a requirement for the course.

Communicating with Course Instructors
If circumstances arise that require students to miss class meetings or other required course elements (i.e., they become ill, need to care for someone who is ill), students should communicate those circumstances with their instructors. Conversely, if instructors become ill, the blended Hybrid-HyFlex model allows for remote teaching so that instructional continuity can be maintained.

How Students Can Get Assistance
Technology Help
Help Desk 254-986-9885
https://www.tarleton.edu/technology/index.html

Help with Canvas Learning Management System
Canvas Support Center 254-968-1960
https://www.tarleton.edu/idt/Canvas/canvas-students.html

Financial Help
See https://www.tarleton.edu/finance-administration/emergency-relief/index.html for information on CARES Act and Emergency Aid funding available for students.

* Programs governed by licensure and/or accreditation/certification requirements may require students to attend face-to-face laboratories, simulations, and clinical experiences to progress through the program and successfully graduate with eligibility for the licensure or certification examination.